

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 SCCT-01 OC-05 CCO-00

SAM-01 OMB-01 IO-10 AID-05 PC-01 CU-02 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00 /084 W

----- 058563

O P 041012Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7000

INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL SONGKHLA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL UDORN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

DIA WASHDC

COMUSMACHTAI BANGKOK

CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 13140

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TH, US

SUBJECT: PLANNED ANTI-AMERICAN DEMONSTRATION FOR
JULY 4 - SITREP 7

REF: (A) STATE 152784

(B) BANGKOK 13134

SUMMARY: JULY 4 AND THE AMBASSADOR'S VIN D'HONNEUR WENT
OFF QUIETLY. A NUMBER OF RANKING RTG OFFICIALS CAME TO
THE RESIDENCE FOR THE CELEBRATION, AND SOME THAI GUESTS
REMARKED THAT THEIR MOTIVE IN ATTENDING WAS TO EXPRZSS
THEIR FRIENDSHIP TOWARD THE UNITED STATES. ANOTHER DELE-
GATION ARRIVED AT THE EMBASSY WITH FLOWERS AND WORDS OF
SUPPORT THE MORNING OF JULY 4. SCATTERED INCIDENTS HAVE
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OCCURRED UPCOUNTRY, BUT THEY APPARENTLY HAVE NOT BROKEN

THE STALEMATE BETWEEN THE RIGHT AND LEFT FORCES.
END SUMMARY

AT THE VIN D'HONNEUR

1. RANKING RTG OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ACTING PRIME MINISTER PRAMAN ADIREKSAN AND ARMY COMMANDER GENERAL KRIT SIWARA, ATTENDED THE AMBASSADOR'S VIN D'HONNEUR HELD AT NOON. OVERALL NUMBERS WERE COMPARABLE TO PREVIOUS YEARS AND INCLUDED A NUMBER OF RANKING RTG OFFICIALS. MANY THAI EXPRESSED GENERAL COMMENTS OF FRIENDSHIP. THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT MENTIONED TO THE DCM THAT HE DOES NOT NORMALLY ATTEND SUCH FUNCTIONS BUT CAME TODAY TO DEMONSTRATE HIS FRIENDSHIP TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. KRIT TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT HE THOUGHT THE GENERAL SITUATION AROUND THE COUNTRY WOULD REMAIN QUIET. PRAMAN TOLD ANOTHER EMBASSY OFFICER THAT SOME POSSIBILITY REMAINED THAT A FLARE-UP MIGHT OCCUR AROUND THE PRAMANE GROUNDS OR THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 4.

AT THE EMBASSY

3. THE THAILAND PROTECTION GROUP CAME TO THE EMBASSY AT 1030 HOURS JULY 4, AND PRESENTED A BOUQUET TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER. IN THE PRESENTATION SPEECH, LEADER AMNUAI PAN-PRASOET EXPRESSED HIS GROUP'S APPRECIATION FOR THE HISTORIC AND CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE THAI AND AMERICAN PEOPLES. SOME OF THE LOCAL PRESS ATTENDED.

4. DESPITE LOCAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS REPORTS, ONCE THE NATIONAL VOCATIONAL STUDENTS OF THAILAND MADE THEIR PRESENTATION JULY 3, THEY COMPLETELY LEFT THE AREA OF THE EMBASSY. THE NVSCT IS NOT GUARDING THE EMBASSY.

AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY

5. POLICE SOURCES REPORT SMALL CROWDS AT THE JULY 3 EVENING PANEL DISCUSSION AND THE JULY 4 ACTIVITIES AT THAMMASAT UNIVERSITY. THE POLICE TOLD THE REGIONAL CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY OFFICER IN MID-AFTERNOON THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO INCIDENTS IN THE THAMMASAT AREA. JULY 4 EDITIONS OF THE BANGKOK ENGLISH AND THAI LANGUAGE PRESS CONTINUE THEIR NON-COVERAGE OF THE PANEL DISCUSSIONS.

UPCOUNTRY

6. THE CHIANG MAI CONSUL REPORTS THAT A PIPE BOMB EXPLODED

WITHOUT CAUSING ANY DAMAGE IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE ABOUT 2200 JULY 3. DURING THE CONSUL'S VIN D'DONNEUR JULY 4, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT ADOLESCENTS SET OFF THE BOMB. THE CHIANG MAI VIN D'HONNNEUR WAS BETTER ATTENDED THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. NO FURTHER INCIDENTS HAVE OCCURRED IN TOWN.

7. THE UDORN CONSUL REPORTS THAT THE CITY IS QUIET. A RIGHTIST GROUP OF SOME 300 ASSEMBLED AT THE FAIRGROUNDS AT NOON, BUT HAD DWINDLED TO 200 BY 1545.

8. THE BANGKOK POST GAVE FRONTPAGE COVERAGE JULY 4 TO THE JUNE 30 KILLING IN KHORAT OF A LEFTIST STUDENT. (FBIS BK040244Y JUNE 75). THE POLICE TOLD THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER THAT THE KHORAT GOVERNOR WAS CONSIDERING CALLING OUT THE MILITARY. THE UDORN CONSUL REPORTS THAT KHORAT CITY IS NERVOUS JULY 4, BUT THE ONLY UNUSUAL EVENT WAS A SMALL RIGHTIST RALLY IN THE DOWNTOWN BAR AREA. THE CONSUL ALSO SAYS THAT THE POST ARTICLE IS INCORRECT IN THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO ATTEMPTED LEFTIST PENETRATION OF KHORAT AIR BASE.

9. THE SONGKHLA CONSUL REPORTS THAT ON JULY 4 HE RECEIVED ONE LETTER FROM A LEFTIST GROUP. AFTER THE GROUP LEFT, THE VICE GOVERNOR CAME TO THE CONSULATE TO SAY THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FURTHER DEMONSTRATIONS. THE CONSUL REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNOR, WHO RARELY ACCEPTS INVITATIONS, WILL ATTEND THE CONSUL'S VIN D'HONNEUR, FURTHER SUGGESTING THAT THE RTG IN THE SOUTH HAS EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL.

10. COMMENT: LEFTIST ELEMENTS HAD TO BACK DOWN FROM THEIR EARLIER INTENTION OF HAVING A DEMONSTRATION AT THE EMBASSY BECAUSE THEY FACED A BETTER ORGANIZED RIGHT WING ELEMENT. CONFIDENTIAL

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THEY ALSO FORFEITED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC SUPPORT BY PICKING THE WRONG ISSUE. A KEY FACTOR IN WEAKENING THE LEFTIST CAUSE WAS GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION. THE PROPOSED ANTI-AMERICAN JULY 4 DEMONSTRATION WAS A BENCHMARK IN THE CONTINUED POLITICAL POLARIZATION OF THAILAND.

11. A HEAVY RAIN HIT BANGKOK AT 1600. UNLESS UNUSUAL EVENTS

OCCUR, WE PLAN NO FURTHER SITREPS ON THIS TOPIC. WHITEHOUSE

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